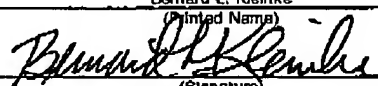


**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

SEP 20 2004

App. No.: 10/658,440
Amdt. Dated: September 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 20, 2004
Atty. Dkt. No. 7719-116**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: **SMITH ET AL**
Title: **ELECTRONIC COMPONENT RACK
ASSEMBLY AND METHOD**
Appl. No.: **10/658,440**
Filing Date: **September 8, 2003**
Examiner: **Yean Hsi Chang**
Art Unit: **2835**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FACSIMILE Date of Deposit: September 20, 2004 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted on the date indicated above to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, Virginia, at telephone No. 703-872-9308. <div style="text-align: right;">Bernard L. Kleinke (Printed Name)  (Signature)</div>
--

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

MAIL STOP - AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is:

- ☒ A Reply and Amendment in the above-identified application (11 pages)
- ☒ Exhibit A (1 page)
- ☒ Exhibit B (1 page)
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required regarding this Amendment, or credit an overpayment, to Duckor Spradling Metzger & Wynne Deposit Account No. 502635. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, postdated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, The Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid

301466.1319833.1

App. No.: 10/658,440
Amdt. Dated: September 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 20, 2004
Atty. Dkt. No. 7719-116

amount to Duckor Spradling Metzger & Wynne Deposit Account No.
500872.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at
the address indicated below.


Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 20, 2004

DUCKOR SPRADLING METZGER & WYNNE
A Law Corporation
401 West A Street, Suite 2400
San Diego, California 92101-7915

Telephone No.: 619.231.3666
Facsimile No.: 619.231.6629
Email Address: kleinke@dsmw-law.com

By:


Bernard L. Kleinke
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 22,123

301466.1319833.1

DSM

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

SEP 20 2004

NO. 3541

P. 3

App. No.: 10/658,440
Amdt. Dated: September 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 20, 2004
Atty. Dkt. No. 7719-116

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SMITH ET AL

Title: **ELECTRONIC COMPONENT RACK
ASSEMBLY AND METHOD**

Appl. No.: 10/658,440


Filing Date: **September 8, 2003**

Examiner: Yean Hsi Chang

Art Unit: **2835**

MAIL STOP – AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FACSIMILE
Date of Deposit: September 20, 2004
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile
transmitted on the date indicated above to the United
States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, Virginia,
at telephone No. 703-872-9306.

Bernard L. Kleinknecht
(Printed Name)

(Signature)

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116(b)

Sir,

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated July 20, 2004. Please amend the above identified Application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including two annotated figures from the Casanova et al. (U.S. 5,031,075) patent are attached following page 11 of this paper.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☒ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.